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Montana Crop & Livestock Reporter

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HIGHLIGHTS

- Barley Utilized for Malt
- Milk Cow County Estimates
- Sheep and Lambs County Estimates
- Ag Prices Received
- Wheat Supply and Demand

Maltsters and Brewers Purchased 19.5 Million Bushels of the 2007 Montana Barley Crop

Maltsters and brewers purchased 19.5 million bushels of Montana's 2007 barley crop to make malt, down 9 percent from 2006 and down 13 percent from the 2005 crop year. The survey was requested and funded by the Montana Wheat and Barley Committee. The average protein of the 2007 malting crop was 12.7 percent, which is 0.4 points higher than the average protein of the 2006 crop. Average plumpness decreased 5 percentage points from the 2006 crop to 79 percent.

Montana growers planted 900,000 acres of barley in 2007, up 130,000 acres from 2006. Of the total, approximately 62 percent or 556,000 acres were planted to malting barley varieties. The malt barley utilized represented 61 percent of the 2007 total barley crop, compared with 69 percent in 2006 and 57 percent utilized in 2005.

Metcalfe was the most frequently purchased variety by maltsters and brewers this year. Metcalfe, an Anheuser Busch variety, accounted for 29 percent of the total purchases. Harrington, Merit, and Tradition were also commonly purchased varieties at 27 percent, 12 percent, and 9 percent of the total, respectively. Fifty-nine percent of all malt barley purchased was grown in North Central Montana compared with 48 percent of the previous year's crop and 65 percent of the 2005 crop. Fifteen percent was purchased from Northeast and Southeast Montana growers combined, and 14 percent of the total was purchased from the South Central district.

Montana Barley Purchased To Produce Malt, 2005-2007 Crops

VARIETY	CROP YEAR 1/	DISTRICTS					STATE		
		N. Central	Northeast 2/	Central	S. Central	Southwest 3/	Bushels	% Protein	% Plump
METCALFE	2005	3,384,000	29,000	366,000			3,779,000	12.0	87
	2006	2,830,000		1,254,000		381,000	4,465,000	12.6	81
	2007	3,976,000		1,342,000		274,000	5,592,000	13.5	72
HARRINGTON	2005	5,136,000	134,000	646,000	25,000	322,000	6,263,000	12.4	86
	2006	4,761,000	24,000	2,480,000	340,000	524,000	8,129,000	12.7	84
	2007	4,538,000		133,000	223,000	313,000	5,207,000	13.2	75
MERIT	2005	2,310,000		408,000	76,000	14,000	2,808,000	11.7	85
	2006	1,822,000		513,000	115,000	100,000	2,550,000	11.9	85
	2007	2,023,000		272,000	95,000		2,390,000	12.1	84
TRADITION	2005		1,444,000	12,000			1,456,000	12.7	89
	2006		2,162,000				2,162,000	12.0	82
	2007		1,811,000				1,811,000	12.1	87
MORAVIAN 37	2005	505,000			1,588,000		2,093,000	11.9	92
	2006				1,691,000		1,691,000	11.4	93
	2007				1,698,000		1,698,000	10.7	87
CONRAD	2005	394,000		70,000			464,000	12.0	94
	2006	777,000		220,000	700,000		1,697,000	11.8	91
	2007	924,000		58,000	339,000		1,321,000	12.3	88
STELLAR	2005								
	2006		67,000				67,000	11.2	89
	2007		523,000				523,000	12.2	88
LEGACY	2005		1,435,000	7,000			1,442,000	12.1	78
	2006		672,000				672,000	11.4	78
	2007		336,000				336,000	12.8	78
OTHER	2005	2,810,000	359,000	461,000	465,000	50,000	4,145,000	12.5	84
	2006	41,000	36,000				77,000	12.9	83
	2007		213,000		358,000	31,000	602,000	10.6	79
TOTAL	2005	14,539,000	3,401,000	1,970,000	2,154,000	386,000	22,450,000	12.2	86
	2006	10,231,000	2,961,000	4,467,000	2,846,000	1,005,000	21,510,000	12.3	84
	2007	11,461,000	2,883,000	1,805,000	2,713,000	618,000	19,480,000	12.7	79

1/ Crop year defined as July 1 to June 30. 2/ Includes Southeast. 3/ Includes Northwest.

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Milk Cows and Sheep and Lambs Inventories by Counties, January 1, 2006-2008

County and District	Milk Cows and Heifers That Have Calved				All Sheep and Lambs			
	2006	2007	2008	Rank	2006	2007	2008	Rank
Deer Lodge	--	--	--	--	500	700	800	46
Flathead	800	--	--	--	600	600	600	51
Granite	--	--	--	--	500	600	900	43
Lake	1,300	--	1,400	2	1,600	1,700	2,000	34
Lincoln	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Mineral	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Missoula	--	--	--	--	1,700	2,100	1,800	36
Powell	--	--	--	--	1,300	1,400	1,100	40
Ravalli	1,300	1,300	1,400	2	3,200	4,100	3,600	26
Sanders	--	--	--	--	500	--	800	46
Other	400	2,000	900	--	100	800	400	--
NORTHWEST	**3,800**	**3,300**	**3,700**	**--**	**10,000**	**12,000**	**12,000**	**--**
Blaine	--	--	--	--	9,000	6,700	5,900	17
Chouteau	--	--	--	--	700	600	900	43
Glacier	700	700	800	6	700	600	700	49
Hill	--	--	--	--	1,100	1,300	1,100	40
Liberty	600	600	600	7	--	--	--	--
Phillips	--	--	--	--	5,600	4,700	4,800	22
Pondera	900	800	900	5	4,800	6,400	5,800	18
Teton	700	600	600	7	4,100	4,700	4,300	25
Toole	500	--	500	10	1,900	2,000	1,500	39
Other	500	1,200	600	--	--	--	--	--
NORTH CENTRAL	**3,900**	**3,900**	**4,000**	**--**	**27,900**	**27,000**	**25,000**	**--**
Daniels	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Dawson	--	--	--	--	7,600	7,000	6,300	14
Garfield	--	--	--	--	30,000	30,000	30,000	2
McCone	--	--	--	--	9,000	5,500	5,500	19
Richland	--	--	--	--	6,900	3,900	7,200	9
Roosevelt	--	--	--	--	2,500	1,200	--	--
Sheridan	--	--	--	--	--	--	1,900	35
Valley	--	--	--	--	3,500	3,200	3,300	27
Other	--	--	--	--	1,600	1,200	1,800	--
NORTHEAST	**--**	**--**	**--**	**--**	**61,100**	**52,000**	**56,000**	**--**
Broadwater	--	--	--	--	3,500	--	--	--
Cascade	800	900	1,000	4	7,700	9,800	8,600	8
Fergus	500	--	--	--	6,600	5,100	5,500	19
Golden Valley	--	--	--	--	10,600	14,500	14,800	5
Judith Basin	--	--	--	--	7,200	8,600	8,700	7
Lewis & Clark	--	--	--	--	3,200	3,500	4,400	24
Meagher	--	--	--	--	5,400	6,100	6,100	16
Musselshell	--	--	--	--	5,700	5,000	4,800	22
Petroleum	--	--	--	--	3,100	--	--	--
Wheatland	--	500	500	10	16,700	17,000	15,000	4
Other	1,000	1,400	1,100	--	--	6,400	6,100	--
CENTRAL	**2,300**	**2,800**	**2,600**	**--**	**69,700**	**76,000**	**74,000**	**--**
Beaverhead	--	--	--	--	14,900	18,500	19,000	3
Gallatin	6,300	5,200	4,500	1	4,100	2,300	2,900	32
Jefferson	--	--	--	--	--	--	900	43
Madison	--	--	--	--	7,100	7,100	6,400	13
Silver Bow	--	--	--	--	--	--	800	46
Other	200	200	200	--	900	1,100	--	--
SOUTHWEST	**6,500**	**5,400**	**4,700**	**--**	**27,000**	**29,000**	**30,000**	**--**
Big Horn	--	--	--	--	--	1,100	--	--
Carbon	--	--	--	--	8,900	7,900	6,200	15
Park	--	--	--	--	1,800	1,700	1,700	37
Stillwater	--	--	--	--	7,200	6,800	6,600	12
Sweetgrass	--	--	--	--	8,000	7,800	7,200	9
Treasure	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Yellowstone	600	600	600	7	3,700	5,700	5,100	21
Other	200	100	400	--	1,500	--	1,200	--
SOUTH CENTRAL	**800**	**700**	**1,000**	**--**	**31,100**	**31,000**	**28,000**	**--**
Carter	--	--	--	--	39,200	37,000	37,000	1
Custer	--	--	--	--	7,400	7,400	6,700	11
Fallon	--	--	--	--	2,400	2,100	2,100	33
Powder River	--	--	--	--	12,800	11,200	12,300	6
Prairie	--	--	--	--	3,600	3,300	3,200	28
Rosebud	--	--	--	--	1,400	1,500	3,000	30
Wibaux	--	--	--	--	1,400	500	700	49
Other	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
SOUTHEAST	**--**	**--**	**--**	**--**	**68,200**	**63,000**	**65,000**	**--**
OTHER DISTRICTS	**1,700**	**1,900**	**1,000**		**--**	**--**	**--**	
MONTANA	**19,000**	**18,000**	**17,000**	**--**	**295,000**	**290,000**	**290,000**	**--**

-- Counties with no head or counties that are combined into “other” counties to avoid disclosure of individual information.

July 2008 Ag Prices Received

Montana's July full month crop prices were mixed when compared with June 2008. Montana's winter wheat price was $8.50 per bushel, up $0.37 from June, but spring wheat decreased $0.30 to $10.10 per bushel, and durum wheat prices dropped $0.89 to $9.91 per bushel. Feed barley was up $0.75 from the previous month to $4.20 per bushel, but malt barley decreased $0.83 to $5.66 per bushel.

The mid-August price for alfalfa hay in Montana was up $13.00 from July 2008 to $128.00 per ton, but all other hay was down $7.00 to $120.00 per ton. The mid-August grain prices were mostly lower with winter wheat at $8.52 per bushel, spring wheat was $9.19 per bushel, durum wheat was $11.80 per bushel, feed barley was $3.95 per bushel, and malt barley was $5.28 per bushel.

Montana's livestock prices for the full month of July were mostly higher when compared with the previous month. Steer and heifer prices increased $4.00 to $101.00 per cwt and cows were up $5.20 to $59.10 per cwt. The price for calves dropped $3.00 to $105.00 per cwt, lambs decreased $5.00 to $105.00 per cwt, but sheep rose $3.70 to $26.00 per cwt. Milk prices increased $1.40 from June to $19.10 per cwt in July. Steer and heifer prices for mid-August were $104.00 per cwt, cows were $57.70 per cwt, calves were $106.00 per cwt, and the mid-August milk price was $20.50 per cwt.

Nationally, prices for July and changes from June were as follows: winter wheat was $7.10 per bushel, down $0.41, spring wheat was $9.60 per bushel, down $0.50, durum wheat was $11.80 per bushel, up $3.39, the all barley price was $5.11 per bushel, up $0.36, oats were $3.46 per bushel, down $0.03, steers and heifers were $99.60 per cwt, up $3.20, cows were $56.40 per cwt, up $2.10, calves were $115.00 per cwt, down $3.00, sheep were $26.90 per cwt, up $2.10, lambs were $103.00 per cwt, up $1.00, and the all milk price was $19.40 per cwt, up $0.10.

The U.S. mid-August winter wheat price was $7.70 per bushel, spring wheat was $8.62 per bushel, durum wheat was $12.30 per bushel, malt barley was $5.25 per bushel, feed barley was $4.41 per bushel, all barley was $5.00 per bushel, and oats were $3.17 per bushel. Steer and heifer prices were $100.00 per cwt, cows were $57.60 per cwt, calves were $114.00 per cwt, all hogs were $59.70 per cwt, all eggs were $0.965 per dozen, and the mid-August all milk price was $18.50 per cwt.

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in August, at 155 percent, based on 1990-92=100, decreased 4 points (2.5 percent) from July. The Crop Index is down 7 points (3.8 percent) and the Livestock Index declined 1 point (0.7 percent). Producers received lower prices for corn, broilers, soybeans, and milk. Higher prices were realized for wheat, hogs, eggs, and strawberries. In addition to prices, the overall index is also affected by the seasonal change based on a 3-year average mix of commodities producers sell. Increased monthly marketings of cattle, grapes, sweet corn, and potatoes offset decreased marketings of wheat, hay, milk, and broilers.

United States Index Summary

INDEX (1990-92=100)	July 2007	August 2007	July 2008	August 2008
Prices Received	139	139	159	155
Prices Paid, Interest, Taxes, & Farm Wage Rates 1/	162	162	192	194
Ratio 2/	86	86	83	80

1/ Prices paid indexes (1990-92=100) published monthly. 2/ Ratio of index of prices received by farmers to index of prices paid.

Montana Average Farm Prices Received

Commodity	UNIT	Monthly Average				Change from Previous		Mid-Month Avg	
		Montana			U.S.	Month	Year	Montana	U.S.
		Jul 2007	Jun 2008	Jul 2008	Jul 2008	Jun 2008	Jul 2007	15-Aug-08	15-Aug-08
		Dollars							
Winter Wheat	Bu	5.19	8.13	8.50	7.10	0.37	3.31	8.52	7.70
Durum Wheat	Bu	5.94	10.80	9.91	11.80	-0.89	3.97	11.80	12.30
Spring Wheat	Bu	5.32	10.40	10.10	9.60	-0.30	4.78	9.19	8.62
All Wheat	Bu	5.30	9.54	9.56	7.16	0.02	4.26	9.13	8.02
All Barley	Bu	3.77	4.11	5.57	5.11	1.46	1.80	5.20	5.00
Feed Barley	Bu	3.23	3.45	4.20	4.70	0.75	0.97	3.95	4.41
Malt Barley	Bu	3.42	6.49	5.66	5.19	-0.83	2.24	5.28	5.25
Oats	Bu	na	na	na	3.46	na	na	na	3.17
Alfalfa Hay	Ton	79.00	84.00	115.00	177.00	31.00	36.00	128.00	180.00
All Other Hay	Ton	90.00	99.00	127.00	130.00	28.00	37.00	120.00	126.00
All Hay Baled	Ton	82.00	86.00	116.00	164.00	30.00	34.00	127.00	165.00
Steers & Heifers	Cwt	90.10	97.00	101.00	99.60	4.00	10.90	104.00	100.00
Cows	Cwt	53.70	53.90	59.10	56.40	5.20	5.40	57.70	57.60
Beef Cattle 1/	Cwt	81.70	75.00	85.10	95.10	10.10	3.40	93.40	96.10
Calves	Cwt	114.00	108.00	105.00	115.00	-3.00	-9.00	106.00	114.00
Sheep	Cwt	23.30	22.30	26.00	26.90	3.70	2.70	na	na
Lambs	Cwt	103.00	110.00	105.00	103.00	-5.00	2.00	na	na
All Milk	Cwt	19.80	17.70	19.10	19.40	1.40	-0.70	20.50	18.50

1/ Composite of steers, heifers, and cows. na-not available.

Wheat Supply and Demand Estimates

The 2008/09 U.S. wheat and wheat by-class balance sheets are unchanged this month. The projected range for the all wheat season-average farm price is narrowed 20 cents on each end of the range to $6.70 to $7.80 per bushel. Tight world supplies of higher quality milling wheat are expected to support domestic farm prices.

Global 2008/09 wheat production is projected at a record 676.3 million tons, up 5.5 million from last month. Increases for EU-27, Russia, and Ukraine more than offset reductions for Argentina, Australia, and Kazakhstan. EU-27 production is increased 4.0 million tons as harvest results indicate higher-than-expected yields especially for Germany, which accounts for half of this month's increase. Production is raised 3.0 million tons for Russia and 2.5 million tons for Ukraine on higher reported area and higher yields as indicated by harvest results. Argentina production is lowered 1.0 million tons as excessive dryness reduces planted area and continues to hamper crop development, particularly in the north central growing regions. Production is lowered 3.0 million tons for Australia on August dryness that reduced yield prospects, particularly in Western Australia and in pockets of southeastern Australia where dryness persisted. Kazakhstan production is lowered 0.8 million tons on early harvest results that suggest summer dryness has trimmed spring wheat yields in some growing regions. Changes for other FSU-12 states are nearly offsetting. Production for Brazil and Canada are each raised 0.4 million tons based on the most recent government indications.

World imports and exports for 2008/09 are raised mostly reflecting increased supplies of feed quality wheat and increased prospects for wheat feeding. Imports are increased 0.5 million tons each for South Korea and Philippines and 0.4 million tons for Israel. Wheat feeding is increased by similar amounts for these countries as more competitively priced feed quality wheat reduces corn feeding. Increased supplies of lower quality wheat in EU-27, Russia, and Ukraine also boost wheat feeding and exports. Exports are raised 2.5 million tons for EU-27 and 0.5 million tons each for Russia and Ukraine. Exports are also raised 0.5 million tons for Canada. Partly offsetting are reductions of 1.0 million tons each for Argentina and Australia, and 0.6 million tons for Kazakhstan. Global ending stocks for 2008/09 are projected 3.7 million tons higher this month. At 139.9 million tons, stocks are expected to increase 21.4 million tons on the year.

Wheat: Supply, Disappearance, and Price, United States, 1995-2008

Year Beginning June 1	SUPPLY				DISAPPEARANCE						Ending Stocks May 31	Season Avg. Price
	Beginning Stocks	Production	Imports 1/	Total	Domestic Use				Exports 1/	Total Disappearance		
					Food	Seed	Feed 2/	Total				
	-- Million Bushels --											$
1995	507	2,183	68	2,757	883	104	153	1,140	1,241	2,381	376	4.55
1996	376	2,277	92	2,746	891	102	308	1,301	1,001	2,302	444	4.30
1997	444	2,481	95	3,020	914	92	251	1,257	1,040	2,298	722	3.38
1998	722	2,547	103	3,373	908	81	397	1,385	1,042	2,427	946	2.65
1999	946	2,299	95	3,339	929	92	279	1,300	1,090	2,390	950	2.48
2000	950	2,232	90	3,272	950	80	304	1,334	1,062	2,396	876	2.62
2001	876	1,957	108	2,941	926	84	190	1,200	964	2,164	777	2.78
2002	777	1,606	81	2,464	919	84	119	1,122	850	1,972	491	3.56
2003	491	2,345	63	2,899	912	80	203	1,194	1,158	2,353	546	3.40
2004	546	2,158	71	2,775	910	78	182	1,169	1,066	2,235	540	3.40
2005	540	2,105	81	2,726	915	78	160	1,152	1,003	2,155	571	3.42
2006	571	1,812	122	2,505	938	81	121	1,140	908	2,049	456	4.26
2007 ...... 3/	456	2,067	113	2,635	948	88	30	1,066	1,264	2,330	306	6.48
2008 ...... 3/	306	2,462	100	2,868	960	84	250	1,294	1,000	2,294	574	6.70-7.80

1/ Imports and exports include flour and other products expressed in wheat equivalent. 2/ Residual, approximates feed use and includes negligible quantities used for distilled spirits. 3/ Preliminary.
SOURCE: World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates, September 12, 2008--ERS. Totals may not add due to independent rounding.

COMING IN THE NEXT REPORTER

- Wheat and Barley Movement
- Milk Production
- Potato Disposition
- Cash Receipts County Estimates
- Cattle on Feed
- Egg Production
- Red Meat Production

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